

Linear Connections on Extended Space-Time

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Abstract: A modification of Kaluza-Klein theory is proposed which is general enough to admit an arbitrary finite noncommutative internal geometry. It is shown that the existence of a non-trivial extension to the total geometry of a linear connection on space-time places severe restrictions on the structure of the noncommutative factor. A counter-example is given.

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1 Introduction

Immediately after the introduction of a noncommutative extension of space-time to unify Higgs scalars with Yang-Mills gauge fields (Dubois-Violette *et al.* 1989a) it was recognized that the resulting geometry could be interpreted as a modification of Kaluza-Klein theory (Dubois-Violette *et al.* 1989b). For later developments we refer for example to Madore (1990), Chamseddine *et al.* (1993) and Madore & Mourad (1993). Our purpose here is to present a formalism sufficiently general to describe any finite noncommutative extension of space-time and to discuss the type of restrictions which it is necessary to place on the internal differential calculus for there to exist non-trivial extensions to the total geometry of a linear connection on space-time.

After a preliminary description of the commutative case to fix the notation, we give in Section 2 the general definition of what we mean by a noncommutative extension of space-time. In Section 3 we show that this is essentially a reformulation of a previous definition (Madore 1990, Madore & Mourad 1993) in a more general context. As a different explicit example of a noncommutative geometry we recall briefly in Section 4 the linear connection which has been recently added (Madore *et al.* 1994) to the differential calculus which Connes & Lott (1990, 1991) have proposed to describe the Higgs sector of the Standard Model. We use this calculus to give in Section 5 an example of a Kaluza-Klein extension which is necessarily trivial, without Yang-Mills potentials or scalar fields.

We refer to Bailin & Love (1987) for an introduction to standard Kaluza-Klein theory and, for example, to Madore & Mourad (1993) for a motivation of the generalization to noncommutative geometry. The original Kaluza-Klein construction involves geometric structures on a group G , on a space-time manifold V and on a principal bundle P over V . We shall distinguish the structure of the bundle by a tilde and, when necessary, that of the manifold by a subscript V .

It is to be stressed that we are here concerned with a generalization of Kaluza-Klein theory to noncommutative geometry and not with the definition of a non-commutative version of a principal bundle. Also, as was pointed out in the previous publications, our definition of a linear connection makes essential use of the bimodule structure of the space of 1-forms. This accounts for the difference of our conclusions from those of authors (Chamseddine *et al.* 1993, Sitarz 1994, Klimčík *et al.* 1994, Landi *et al.* 1994,) who define a linear connection using the classical (Koszul 1960) formula for a covariant derivative on an arbitrary left (or right) module. A more detailed comparison of the two approaches is given in Sitarz (1995). We have formulated our results where necessary directly in terms of covariant derivatives on the bimodule structure. In noncommutative geometry connection forms cannot be defined in general.

Let V be a differential manifold and let $(\Omega^*(V), d)$ be the ordinary differential calculus on V . A linear connection on V can be defined as a connection on the cotangent bundle to V . It can be characterized (Koszul 1960) as a linear map

$$\Omega^1(V) \xrightarrow{D} \Omega^1(V) \otimes_{C(V)} \Omega^1(V) \quad (1.1)$$

which satisfies the left Leibniz rule

$$D(f\xi) = df \otimes \xi + f D\xi \quad (1.2)$$

for arbitrary $f \in \mathcal{C}(V)$ and $\xi \in \Omega^1(V)$. Let θ^α to be a local moving frame on V . The connection form $\omega^\alpha{}_\beta$ is defined in terms of the covariant derivative of θ^α :

$$D\theta^\alpha = -\omega^\alpha{}_\beta \otimes \theta^\beta. \quad (1.3)$$

Because of (1.2) the covariant derivative $D\xi$ of an arbitrary element $\xi = \xi_\alpha \theta^\alpha \in \Omega^1(V)$ can be written as $D\xi = (D\xi_\alpha) \otimes \theta^\alpha$ where

$$D\xi_\alpha = d\xi_\alpha - \omega^\beta{}_\alpha \xi_\beta. \quad (1.4)$$

Let π be the product in the algebra of forms. Using it one can define the torsion form $\Theta^\alpha = (d - \pi D)\theta^\alpha$. We shall assume that the torsion vanishes:

$$\pi D = d. \quad (1.5)$$

Let σ be the bilinear map of $\Omega^1(V) \otimes_{\mathcal{C}(V)} \Omega^1(V)$ into itself defined by the permutation of the two factors:

$$\sigma(\theta^\alpha \otimes \theta^\beta) = \theta^\beta \otimes \theta^\alpha. \quad (1.6)$$

Using σ we can extend D to the tensor algebra:

$$D(\theta^\alpha \otimes \theta^\beta) = D\theta^\alpha \otimes \theta^\beta + \sigma_{12}(\theta^\alpha \otimes D\theta^\beta), \quad \sigma_{12} = \sigma \otimes 1.$$

The metric can be defined as a bilinear map

$$\Omega^1(V) \otimes_{\mathcal{C}(V)} \Omega^1(V) \xrightarrow{g} \Omega^0(V). \quad (1.7)$$

It is symmetric if

$$g\sigma = g. \quad (1.8)$$

We shall assume that the connection is metric compatible:

$$(1 \otimes g)D(\xi \otimes \eta) = dg(\xi \otimes \eta). \quad (1.9)$$

Using π one defines the curvature 2-form $\Omega^\alpha{}_\beta$:

$$\pi_{12}D^2\theta^\alpha = -\Omega^\alpha{}_\beta \otimes \theta^\beta, \quad \pi_{12} = \pi \otimes 1. \quad (1.10)$$

The left-linearity of the curvature,

$$\pi_{12}D^2(f\theta^\alpha) = f\pi_{12}D^2\theta^\alpha, \quad (1.11)$$

is a consequence of the identity

$$\pi(\sigma + 1) = 0. \quad (1.12)$$

The module $\Omega^1(V)$ has a natural structure as a right $\mathcal{C}(V)$ -module and the right Leibniz rule is determined using the fact that $\mathcal{C}(V)$ is a commutative algebra:

$$D(\xi f) = D(f\xi). \quad (1.13)$$

Using σ this can also be written in a form

$$D(\xi f) = \sigma(\xi \otimes df) + (D\xi)f. \quad (1.14)$$

which can be used in noncommutative geometries.

Let now (Ω^*, d) designate a general differential calculus. It was suggested by Dubois-Violette & Michor (1994) and by Mourad (1994) that an essential ingredient in the definition of a linear connection over Ω^* is a generalized symmetry operation σ :

$$\Omega^1 \otimes_{\Omega^0} \Omega^1 \xrightarrow{\sigma} \Omega^1 \otimes_{\Omega^0} \Omega^1. \quad (1.15)$$

It can be shown that σ is bilinear and in some examples which have been considered it can also be shown that σ is essentially unique (Dubois-Violette *et al.* 1994, Madore *et al.* 1994). In general $\sigma^2 \neq 1$ but if one supposes that σ satisfies the Hecke relation then one can define the exterior algebra and the symmetric algebra as subalgebras of the tensor algebra.

A covariant derivative is defined as a linear map

$$\Omega^1 \xrightarrow{D} \Omega^1 \otimes_{\Omega^0} \Omega^1 \quad (1.16)$$

which satisfies the Leibniz rules (1.2) and (1.14) but with σ given by (1.15). The condition that the linear connection be torsion-free is given as before by (1.5). A metric g is a Ω^0 -bilinear map

$$\Omega^1 \otimes_{\Omega^0} \Omega^1 \xrightarrow{g} \Omega^0. \quad (1.17)$$

It is symmetric if (1.8) is satisfied. The covariant derivative is metric compatible if (1.9) is satisfied for ξ, η elements of Ω^1 .

Consider the commutative Kaluza-Klein construction. Suppose that P is a general G -bundle over V and let p be the projection of P onto V . Define $\tilde{\theta}^\alpha = p^*(\theta^\alpha)$. Suppose that there are Yang-Mills fields present and let $\tilde{\theta}^a$ be the components of a Yang-Mills connection with curvature F . We can define a metric on P by requiring that $\tilde{\theta}^i = (\tilde{\theta}^\alpha, \tilde{\theta}^a)$ be an orthonormal moving frame. A covariant derivative on P is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}\tilde{\theta}^\alpha &= -\omega^\alpha{}_\beta \otimes \tilde{\theta}^\beta + \Gamma^\alpha, \\ \tilde{D}\tilde{\theta}^a &= -\frac{1}{2}C^a{}_{bc}\tilde{\theta}^b \otimes \tilde{\theta}^c + F^a \end{aligned} \quad (1.18)$$

where $\Gamma^\alpha \in \Omega^1(P) \otimes \Omega^1(P)$ is determined by the condition

$$\tilde{\pi}\Gamma^\alpha = 0 \quad (1.19)$$

that the connection be torsion-free and the condition

$$\Gamma^\alpha \otimes \tilde{\theta}^a + \tilde{\sigma}_{12}(\tilde{\theta}^\alpha \otimes F^a) = 0 \quad (1.20)$$

that it be metric compatible. In the above formulae, $\tilde{\pi}$ is the product in $\tilde{\Omega}^*$ and $\tilde{\sigma}$ is the natural extension of (1.6) to $\tilde{\Omega}^1 \otimes \tilde{\Omega}^1$.

Our purpose is to reformulate the Kaluza-Klein construction in sufficient generality that the group manifold can be replaced by an arbitrary noncommutative geometry. For this we must be able to replace the θ^a by 1-forms ξ in some noncommutative differential calculus. A Yang-Mills potential will be a 1-form on space-time with values in the algebra which describes the noncommutative geometry. In a typical application the anti-hermitian elements of this algebra can be identified with the Lie algebra of a subgroup of a general linear group.

2 The general theory

In the most general context a Kaluza-Klein theory can be based on an extension $(\tilde{\Omega}^*, \tilde{d})$ of $(\Omega^*(V), d)$ defined by a differential algebra $\tilde{\Omega}^*$ with an imbedding

$$\Omega^*(V) \xrightarrow{i} \tilde{\Omega}^* \quad (2.1)$$

and a differential \tilde{d} which coincides with d on $\Omega^*(V)$. In the previous section i was given by $i = p^*$. In particular we shall define $\tilde{\theta}^\alpha = i(\theta^\alpha)$. We shall here only consider the special case with

$$\tilde{\Omega}^* = \Omega^*(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega^*, \quad (2.2)$$

where (Ω^*, d) is a finite-dimensional differential calculus over the complex numbers. The algebra $\tilde{\Omega}^0$ could be, for example, the algebra of automorphisms of a trivial vector bundle over V . The algebra $\Omega^0(V)$ is imbedded in the center \tilde{Z}^0 of $\tilde{\Omega}^0$. In Section 5 we shall consider a case where \tilde{Z}^0 can be identified with the algebra of functions on two copies of V .

Consider first the case of a general (algebraic) tensor product

$$\tilde{\Omega}^* = \Omega'^* \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^* \quad (2.3)$$

of two arbitrary differential calculi Ω'^* and Ω''^* with corresponding covariant derivatives D' and D'' . We have then two bilinear maps

$$\Omega'^1 \xrightarrow{D'} \Omega'^1 \otimes_{\Omega'^0} \Omega'^1, \quad \Omega''^1 \xrightarrow{D''} \Omega''^1 \otimes_{\Omega''^0} \Omega''^1, \quad (2.4)$$

from which we wish to construct an extension

$$\tilde{\Omega}^1 \xrightarrow{\tilde{D}} \tilde{\Omega}^1 \otimes_{\tilde{\Omega}^0} \tilde{\Omega}^1. \quad (2.5)$$

This is the most general possible formulation of the bosonic part of the Kaluza-Klein construction under the condition (2.3).

The 1-forms $\tilde{\Omega}^1$ can be written as a direct sum

$$\tilde{\Omega}^1 = \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 \oplus \tilde{\Omega}_c^1 \quad (2.6)$$

where, in the traditional language of Kaluza-Klein theory, $\tilde{\Omega}_h^1$ is the horizontal component of the 1-forms. It can be defined as the $\tilde{\Omega}^0$ -module generated by the image of Ω'^1 in $\tilde{\Omega}^1$ under the generalization of the map (2.1); it is given by

$$\tilde{\Omega}_h^1 = \Omega'^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^0. \quad (2.7)$$

The $\tilde{\Omega}_c^1$ is a complement of $\tilde{\Omega}_h^1$ in $\tilde{\Omega}^1$. Because of the Ansatz (2.3) such a complement always exists. We shall choose

$$\tilde{\Omega}_c^1 = \Omega'^0 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^1. \quad (2.8)$$

The horizontal component of the 1-forms can be expected to have a more general significance whereas the existence of the complement depends on the Ansatz (2.3).

Let $f' \in \Omega'^0$ ($f'' \in \Omega''^0$) and $\xi' \in \Omega'^1$ ($\xi'' \in \Omega''^1$). Then it follows from the definition of the product in the tensor product that

$$f'\xi'' = \xi''f', \quad f''\xi' = \xi'f''.$$

Hence from (1.12) one concludes that the extension $\tilde{\sigma}$ of σ' and σ'' which is part of the definition of \tilde{D} is given by

$$\tilde{\sigma}(\xi' \otimes \eta'') = \eta'' \otimes \xi', \quad \tilde{\sigma}(\xi'' \otimes \eta') = \eta' \otimes \xi''. \quad (2.9)$$

From these one deduces the constraints

$$f'\tilde{D}\xi'' = (\tilde{D}\xi'')f', \quad f''\tilde{D}\xi' = (\tilde{D}\xi')f'' \quad (2.10)$$

on \tilde{D} . These are trivially satisfied if

$$\tilde{D}\xi' = D'\xi', \quad \tilde{D}\xi'' = D''\xi''. \quad (2.11)$$

Using the decomposition (2.6) one sees that the covariant derivative (2.5) takes its values in the sum of 4 spaces, which can be written in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 \otimes_{\tilde{\Omega}^0} \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 &= (\Omega'^1 \otimes_{\Omega'^0} \Omega'^1) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^0, \\ \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 \otimes_{\tilde{\Omega}^0} \tilde{\Omega}_v^1 &= \Omega'^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^1, \\ \tilde{\Omega}_v^1 \otimes_{\tilde{\Omega}^0} \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 &= \Omega''^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega'^1, \\ \tilde{\Omega}_v^1 \otimes_{\tilde{\Omega}^0} \tilde{\Omega}_v^1 &= \Omega'^0 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} (\Omega''^1 \otimes_{\Omega''^0} \Omega''^1). \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

Let Z'^0 (Z''^0) be the center of Ω'^0 (Ω''^0) and let Z'^1 (Z''^1) be the vector space of elements of Ω'^1 (Ω''^1) which commute with Ω'^0 (Ω''^0). Then Z'^1 (Z''^1) is a bimodule over Z'^0 (Z''^0). Let Z'^2 (Z''^2) be the elements of $\Omega'^1 \otimes_{\Omega'^0} \Omega'^1$ ($\Omega''^1 \otimes_{\Omega''^0} \Omega''^1$) which commute with Ω'^0 (Ω''^0). Then

$$Z'^1 \otimes_{Z'^0} Z'^1 \subset Z'^2, \quad Z''^1 \otimes_{Z''^0} Z''^1 \subset Z''^2,$$

but in general the two sides are not equal. From (2.10) we see then that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}\xi' &\in (\Omega'^1 \otimes_{\Omega'^0} \Omega'^1) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} Z''^0 \oplus \Omega'^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} Z''^1 \oplus Z''^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega'^1 \oplus \Omega'^0 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} Z''^2, \\ \tilde{D}\xi'' &\in Z'^0 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} (\Omega''^1 \otimes_{\Omega''^0} \Omega''^1) \oplus \Omega''^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} Z'^1 \oplus Z'^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^1 \oplus Z'^2 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

In the relevant special case with $\Omega'^* = \Omega^*(V)$, we shall have

$$Z'^0 = \Omega'^0, \quad Z'^1 = \Omega'^1, \quad (2.14)$$

and so (2.13) places no restriction on $\tilde{D}\xi''$. However if

$$Z''^1 = 0, \quad Z''^2 = 0, \quad (2.15)$$

one finds the constraint

$$\tilde{D}\xi' = D'\xi'. \quad (2.16)$$

We shall impose the condition that the connections be metric and without torsion although these might be considered rather artificial conditions on the vertical component of the 1-forms. We have then two bilinear maps

$$\Omega'^1 \otimes_{\Omega'^0} \Omega'^1 \xrightarrow{g'} \Omega'^0, \quad \Omega''^1 \otimes_{\Omega''^0} \Omega''^1 \xrightarrow{g''} \Omega''^0, \quad (2.17)$$

which satisfy the compatibility condition (1.9), from which we must construct an extension

$$\tilde{\Omega}^1 \otimes_{\tilde{\Omega}^0} \tilde{\Omega}^1 \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}} \tilde{\Omega}^0$$

which satisfies also (1.9). From the decomposition (2.12) one sees that \tilde{g} will be determined by two bilinear maps

$$\Omega'^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega''^1 \xrightarrow{g_1} \tilde{\Omega}^0, \quad \Omega''^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega'^1 \xrightarrow{g_2} \tilde{\Omega}^0. \quad (2.18)$$

If \tilde{g} is symmetric then from (2.9) it follows that

$$g_2 = g_1 \tilde{\sigma}.$$

In general it is to be expected that if the connection is metric and without torsion, the conditions (2.15) will place constraints also on the covariant derivative $\tilde{D}\xi''$.

In the relevant special case with $\Omega'^* = \Omega^*(V)$ one can define a metric $i^*\tilde{g}$ on V by

$$i^*\tilde{g}(\theta^\alpha, \theta^\beta) = \tilde{g}(\tilde{\theta}^\alpha, \tilde{\theta}^\beta), \quad \tilde{\theta}^\alpha = i(\theta^\alpha).$$

To maintain contact with the commutative construction of the previous section we suppose in this case that

$$i^*\tilde{g} = g_V \quad (2.19)$$

where g_V is a metric on V .

A classical fermionic field associated to a differential calculus (Ω^*, d) lies in a left Ω^0 -module \mathcal{H} and its dynamics are governed by a Dirac operator \not{D} which is a left-linear map of \mathcal{H} into itself. In Kaluza-Klein theory we have then given a \not{D}' on a left Ω'^0 -module \mathcal{H}' and a \not{D}'' on a left Ω''^0 -module \mathcal{H}'' from which we must construct a Dirac operator $\tilde{\not{D}}$ on the left $\tilde{\Omega}^0$ -module

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \mathcal{H}' \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{H}''. \quad (2.20)$$

3 An example

In this section we shall mention an example with a noncommutative internal structure which leads to a non-trivial Kaluza-Klein extension. It is based (Madore & Mourad 1993) on the algebra of $n \times n$ matrices with a differential calculus derived from derivations. A basis e_a of the derivations of M_n is provided by $n^2 - 1$ independent traceless anti-selfadjoint matrices, λ_a :

$$e_a(f) = ad_{e_a} f = [\lambda_a, f], \quad f \in M_n. \quad (3.1)$$

The set of 1-forms, Ω^1 , is a M_n -bimodule freely generated by the duals θ^a of e_a :

$$\theta^a(e_b) = \delta_b^a. \quad (3.2)$$

We shall need the exterior derivative of these 1-forms:

$$d\theta^a = -\frac{1}{2}C^a{}_{bc}\theta^b\theta^c, \quad (3.3)$$

where $C^a{}_{bc}$ are the SU_n structure constants with respect to the basis λ_a . We shall also need the important property

$$f\theta^a = \theta^a f, \quad \forall f \in M_n. \quad (3.4)$$

The generalized symmetry operation σ was given by Madore *et al.* (1994):

$$\sigma(\theta^a \otimes \theta^b) = \theta^b \otimes \theta^a. \quad (3.5)$$

A general element, α of $\tilde{\Omega}^1$ can be written as a sum $\alpha = A + \xi$ where $A \in \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 = \Omega^1(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} M_n$ is a 1-form on V with values in M_n and $\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_c^1 = \Omega^0(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega^1(M_n)$. Introduce $\theta^i = (\theta^\alpha, \theta^a)$. The generalized symmetry operation $\tilde{\sigma}$ is given by

$$\tilde{\sigma}(\theta^i \otimes \theta^j) = \theta^j \otimes \theta^i. \quad (3.6)$$

From the property (3.4) we find that

$$Z''^0 = \{1\}, \quad Z''^1 = \{\theta^a\}, \quad Z''^2 = \{\theta^a \otimes \theta^b\}. \quad (3.7)$$

We can write then the most general covariant derivative as

$$\tilde{D}\theta^i = -\Gamma^i{}_{jk}\theta^j \otimes \theta^k, \quad (3.8)$$

where

$$\Gamma^i{}_{jk} \in \Omega^0(V). \quad (3.9)$$

From the condition (1.5) one finds

$$d\theta^i = -\Gamma^i{}_{jk}\theta^j \wedge \theta^k. \quad (3.10)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma^a{}_{bc} - \Gamma^a{}_{cb} &= C^a{}_{bc}, & \Gamma^a{}_{b\alpha} &= \Gamma^a{}_{\alpha b}, \\ \Gamma^\alpha{}_{a\beta} &= \Gamma^\alpha{}_{\beta a}, & \Gamma^\alpha{}_{ab} &= \Gamma^\alpha{}_{ba}, \\ \Gamma^\alpha{}_{\beta\gamma} - \Gamma^\alpha{}_{\gamma\beta} &= \omega^\alpha{}_{\beta\gamma} - \omega^\alpha{}_{\gamma\beta}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

where

$$\omega^\alpha{}_\beta = \omega^\alpha{}_{\gamma\beta}\theta^\gamma$$

is a torsion-free connection 1-form on V .

The metric is given by $g^{ij} = g(\theta^i \otimes \theta^j)$. Since the $\theta^i \otimes \theta^j$ commute with all elements of the algebra, the g^{ij} are complex functions. The reality condition

$$(g(\xi \otimes \eta))^* = g(\sigma(\eta^* \otimes \xi^*)) \quad (3.12)$$

imposes that the g^{ij} be real and the symmetry condition $g = g \circ \sigma$ yields $g^{ij} = g^{ji}$. A non-degenerate metric is characterized by an invertible g^{ij} .

The compatibility condition (1.9) becomes

$$dg^{ij} = -\Gamma^i{}_{kl}\theta^k g^{lj} - \Gamma^j{}_{kl}\theta^k g^{il}. \quad (3.13)$$

This condition together with the vanishing-torsion condition determines the linear connection. If we define

$$T^i{}_{jk} = \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma^i{}_{jk} - \Gamma^i{}_{kj})$$

we find

$$\Gamma^i{}_{jk} = \frac{1}{2}g^{il}(e_k g_{jl} + e_j g_{kl} - e_l g_{jk}) + T^i{}_{jk} - T_{kj}{}^i - T_{jk}{}^i, \quad (3.14)$$

where g_{ij} is the inverse of g^{ij} . Note that since the g_{ij} are functions we have

$$e_a g_{ij} = 0. \quad (3.15)$$

Using the metric we can construct from the basis θ^i an orthonormal basis $\tilde{\theta}^i$ such as was used in the topologically more complicated situation considered in Section 1.

The difference between the present calculations and the previous (Madore & Mourad 1993) is that we have here considered the most general connection and metric on the tensor product algebra and have shown that our postulates on the covariant derivative and the metric lead necessarily to components in the basis θ^i which are functions of V alone. Also, in the previous calculations the metric was considered an element of $\Omega^1 \otimes \Omega^1$. Had we used this definition here the fact that the g_{ij} are complex function would have arisen as a consequence of the compatibility condition $\tilde{D}g = 0$.

4 The Connes-Lott geometry

As an example we consider the differential calculus which has been proposed by Connes & Lott (1990, 1991) to describe the Higgs sector of the Standard Model. As mentioned in the previous section, to define a linear connection on the bimodule Ω^1 , we must suppose the existence of a bilinear map (1.15) to replace the usual symmetry operation which is used to define differential forms. In the example we consider here $\sigma^2 = 1$ if and only if the unique connection is metric compatible.

The Connes-Lott geometry is based on a differential calculus over an algebra of matrices with a differential defined by a graded commutator (Connes 1986). Consider the matrix algebra M_n with a \mathbb{Z}_2 grading. One can define on M_n a graded derivation \hat{d} by the formula

$$\hat{d}f = -[\theta, f], \quad (4.1)$$

where θ is an arbitrary anti-hermitian odd element and the commutator is taken as a graded commutator. We find that $\hat{d}\theta = -2\theta^2$ and for any $\alpha \in M_n$,

$$\hat{d}^2\alpha = [\theta^2, \alpha]. \quad (4.2)$$

The \mathbb{Z}_2 grading of M_n can be expressed as the direct sum $M_n = M_n^+ \oplus M_n^-$ where M_n^+ (M_n^-) are the even (odd) elements of M_n . It can be induced from a decomposition $\mathbb{C}^n = \mathbb{C}^l \oplus \mathbb{C}^{n-l}$ for some integer l . The elements of M_n^+ are diagonal with respect to the decomposition; the elements of M_n^- are off-diagonal.

It is possible to construct over M_n^+ a differential algebra $\Omega^* = \Omega^*(M_n^+)$ (Connes & Lott 1991). Let $\Omega^0 = M_n^+$ and let $\Omega^1 \equiv \overline{d\Omega^0} \subset M_n^-$ be the M_n^+ -bimodule generated by the image of Ω^0 in M_n^- under \hat{d} . Define

$$\Omega^0 \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1 \quad (4.3)$$

using directly (4.1): $d = \hat{d}$. Let $\overline{d\Omega^1}$ be the M_n^+ -module generated by the image of Ω^1 in M_n^+ under \hat{d} . It would be natural to try to set $\Omega^2 = \overline{d\Omega^1}$ and define

$$\Omega^1 \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2 \quad (4.4)$$

using once again (4.1). Every element of Ω^1 can be written as a sum of elements of the form $f_0 \hat{d} f_1$. If we attempt to define an application (4.6) using again directly (4.3),

$$d(f_0 \hat{d} f_1) = \hat{d} f_0 \hat{d} f_1 + f_0 \hat{d}^2 f_1, \quad (4.5)$$

then we see that in general d^2 does not vanish. To remedy this problem we eliminate simply the unwanted terms. Let $\text{Im } \hat{d}^2$ be the submodule of $\overline{d\Omega^1}$ consisting of those elements which contain a factor which is the image of \hat{d}^2 and define Ω^2 by

$$\Omega^2 = \overline{d\Omega^1}/\text{Im } \hat{d}^2. \quad (4.6)$$

Then by construction the second term on the right-hand side of (4.5) vanishes as an element of Ω^2 and we have a well defined map (4.4) with $d^2 = 0$. This procedure

can be continued to arbitrary order by iteration. For each $p \geq 2$ we let $\text{Im } \hat{d}^2$ be the submodule of $\overline{d\Omega^{p-1}}$ defined as above and we define Ω^p by

$$\Omega^p = \overline{d\Omega^{p-1}} / \text{Im } \hat{d}^2. \quad (4.7)$$

Since $\Omega^p \Omega^q \subset \Omega^{p+q}$ the complex Ω^* is a differential algebra. The Ω^p need not vanish for large values of p . In fact if $\theta^2 \propto 1$ we see that $\hat{d}^2 = 0$ and the sequence defined by (4.9) never stops. However $\Omega^p \subseteq M_n^+(M_n^-)$ for p even (odd) and so it stabilizes for large p .

We shall consider in some detail the case $n = 3$ with the grading defined by the decomposition $\mathbb{C}^3 = \mathbb{C}^2 \oplus \mathbb{C}$. The most general possible form for θ is

$$\theta = \eta_1 - \eta_1^* \quad (4.8)$$

where

$$\eta_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.9)$$

Without loss of generality we can choose the euclidean 2-vector η_{1i} of unit length. The general construction yields $\Omega^0 = M_3^+ = M_2 \times M_1$ and $\Omega^1 = M_3^-$ but after that the quotient by elements of the form $\text{Im } \hat{d}^2$ reduces the dimension. One finds $\Omega^2 = M_1$ and $\Omega^p = 0$ for $p \geq 3$. Let e be the unit of M_1 . It generates Ω^2 and can also be considered as an element of Ω^0 .

To form a basis for Ω^1 we must introduce a second matrix η_2 . It is convenient to choose it of the same form as η_1 . We have then in Ω^2 the identity

$$\eta_i \eta_j^* = 0.$$

We can uniquely fix η_2 by requiring that

$$\eta_i^* \eta_j = \delta_{ij} e. \quad (4.10)$$

It follows that

$$d\eta_1 = e, \quad d\eta_2 = 0.$$

There is a (unique) unitary element of $M_2 \subset M_3^+$ which exchanges η_1 and η_2 :

$$\eta_2 = u\eta_1, \quad \eta_1 = -u\eta_2. \quad (4.11)$$

We have also

$$\eta_2 u = 0, \quad \eta_1 u = 0. \quad (4.12)$$

The vector space of 1-forms is of dimension 4 over the complex numbers. The dimension of $\Omega^1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega^1$ is equal to 16 but the dimension of the tensor product $\Omega^1 \otimes_{M_3^+} \Omega^1$ is equal to 5. We shall choose

$$\eta_{ij} = \eta_i \otimes \eta_j^*, \quad \zeta = \eta_1^* \otimes \eta_1 \quad (4.13)$$

as independent basis elements. The most general σ is given by

$$\sigma(\eta_{11}) = \mu\eta_{11}, \quad \sigma(\zeta) = -\zeta. \quad (4.14)$$

There is an imbedding ι of Ω^2 into $\Omega^1 \otimes \Omega^1$ given by $e \mapsto \iota(e) = \zeta$. If $\mu = 1$ we can write $\sigma = 1 - 2\iota\pi$.

Let η be a general element of Ω^1 . The unique covariant derivative (Madore *et al.* 1994) is given by

$$D\eta = \sigma(\eta \otimes \theta) - \theta \otimes \eta. \quad (4.15)$$

If

$$\mu = 1 \quad (4.16)$$

it is compatible with the (non-symmetric) metric

$$g(\eta_{ij}) = \eta_i \eta_j^* \quad g(\zeta) = -e, \quad (4.17)$$

where the right-hand sides are considered as elements of M_3^+ . We have put the single overall scale factor equal to one. If $\mu = 1$ then it is possible to extend the definition of the complex conjugation to the tensor product by the formula

$$(\xi \otimes \eta)^* = \sigma(\eta^* \otimes \xi^*). \quad (4.18)$$

With this definition the covariant derivative (4.15)) is real and the metric (4.17) is real on η_{ij} and imaginary on ζ .

The 1-form θ is a basis for Ω^1 as a bimodule and so one can think of the geometry as being ‘one dimensional’. But there is nonvanishing curvature, with one component $R_{(\theta)}$ given by

$$R_{(\theta)} = 2. \quad (4.19)$$

5 A counter-example

We can use the example of the preceding section to construct a geometry which does not possess a non-trivial linear connection in the sense of Kaluza and Klein. In the calculations based on (2.3) we suppose then that

$$\Omega'^* = \Omega^*(V), \quad \Omega''^* = \Omega^*$$

with Ω^* given by (4.7). A general element $\alpha \in \tilde{\Omega}^1$ can be written as a sum $\alpha = A + \xi$ where $A \in \tilde{\Omega}_h^1 = \Omega^1(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} M_3^+$ is a 1-form on V with values in M_3^+ and $\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_c^1 = \Omega^0(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} M_3^-$ can be considered as a set of 4 scalar fields. From (2.9) we see that the generalized symmetry operation $\tilde{\sigma}$ is given by

$$\tilde{\sigma}(\theta^\alpha \otimes \theta^\beta) = \theta^\beta \otimes \theta^\alpha, \quad \tilde{\sigma}(\theta^\alpha \otimes \xi) = \xi \otimes \theta^\alpha, \quad \tilde{\sigma}(\xi \otimes \theta^\alpha) = \theta^\alpha \otimes \xi, \quad (5.1)$$

with $\tilde{\sigma}(\xi \otimes \eta) = \sigma(\xi \otimes \eta)$ given by (4.14) with $\mu = 1$.

Consider the unit e defined in Section 3 and set $\epsilon = 1 - 2e$. Then $\epsilon^2 = 1$ and the elements of M_3^+ (M_3^-) (anti-)commute with ϵ . It is easy to see that

$$Z''^0 = \{1, \epsilon\}, \quad Z''^1 = 0, \quad Z''^2 = \{\zeta\}. \quad (5.2)$$

The most general covariant derivative \tilde{D} which satisfies the constraints (2.13) is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}\theta^\alpha &= -\omega^\alpha{}_\beta \otimes \theta^\beta + \Gamma^\alpha \zeta, \\ \tilde{D}\theta &= f\zeta + \Gamma + F, \end{aligned} \quad (5.3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^\alpha{}_\beta &\in \Omega^1(V) \otimes Z''^0, & \Gamma^\alpha &\in \Omega^0(V), \quad f \in \Omega^0(V), \\ \Gamma &\in M_3^- \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \Omega^1(V) \oplus \Omega^1(V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} M_3^-, & F &\in \Omega^1(V) \otimes_{\Omega^0(V)} \Omega^1(V) \otimes M_3^+. \end{aligned} \quad (5.4)$$

The notation has been chosen here to mimic that of (1.18).

If one takes the covariant derivative of the identity

$$\epsilon\theta + \theta\epsilon = 0 \quad (5.5)$$

one finds, using (1.2) and (1.14), that

$$\epsilon\tilde{D}\theta + (\tilde{D}\theta)\epsilon + 4\zeta = 0, \quad (5.6)$$

from which it follows that

$$f = 2, \quad F = 0. \quad (5.7)$$

The identity (5.5) is satisfied by any element of M_3^- . To within a factor which lies in Z''^0 , the 1-form θ can be characterized by equations of the form

$$u\theta = 0, \quad \theta u^* = 0,$$

where $u \in M_3^+$. Equations of this sort would be impossible in a commutative geometry since θ generates Ω^1 . If one takes their covariant derivative one sees that Γ must be of the form

$$\Gamma = A \otimes \theta + \theta \otimes B,$$

where $A = A_1 + \epsilon A_2$ and $B = B_1 + \epsilon B_2$ are elements of $\Omega^1(V) \otimes Z''^0$. From (5.5) and the condition (1.5) that the torsion vanish one concludes that

$$B_1 = A_1, \quad B_2 = -A_2, \quad \Gamma^\alpha = 0. \quad (5.8)$$

Therefore the most general torsion-free connection is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}\theta^\alpha &= -\omega^\alpha{}_\beta \otimes \theta^\beta, \\ \tilde{D}\theta &= 2\zeta + A_\alpha(\theta^\alpha \otimes \theta + \theta \otimes \theta^\alpha), \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

with $\omega^\alpha{}_\beta$ and A_α elements of $\Omega^1(V) \otimes Z''^0$.

From the general discussion of Section 2 the extension \tilde{g} of the metric is determined by two functions $g_1(\theta^\alpha, \theta)$ and $g_2(\theta, \theta^\alpha)$ on V with values in M_3^+ . But from the relations (5.5) and the supposed bilinearity one concludes that they must vanish:

$$g_1 = 0, \quad g_2 = 0. \quad (5.10)$$

The metric \tilde{g} is given then by the metric g' on V with values in Z''^0 and the metric (4.17) with a possible function on V as extra overall scale factor.

The condition (1.9) that the extended connection be compatible with the extended metric implies that the extension of the covariant derivative is trivial:

$$\omega^\alpha{}_\beta \in \Omega^1(V), \quad A = 0. \quad (5.11)$$

The metric \tilde{g} is given by a metric $g' = g_V$ on V and the metric (4.17) with no extra scalar field.

6 Conclusions

We have proposed a general noncommutative extension of Kaluza-Klein theory and we have discussed the type of restrictions which must be placed on the supplementary structure to render possible a non-trivial extension of a linear connection. Most important of these is the existence of 1-forms which commute with the algebra. In the formulation of Kaluza-Klein theory using a differential calculus based on derivations this condition is satisfied. We have presented an example where it is not. In situations where the imbedding (2.1) cannot be reduced to the product (2.2) and which would be the noncommutative analogue of non-trivial principle bundles over V then the decomposition (2.6) is no longer possible. The conclusions of Section 5 remain however valid since they are local in V .

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